

What is claimed is:

1. A connector for being connected to a mating connector having a recess, comprising:

a housing;

a locking member provided on an outer peripheral surface of said housing, said locking member including a fixed portion fixed to said housing, an engaging portion for engagement with the recess of the mating connector, and a spring portion for urging said engaging portion toward the recess; and

spring force-increasing means for inhibiting said engaging portion from moving more than a predetermined distance when said spring portion is bent using said fixed portion as a support, and causing said spring portion to be bent using said engaging portion as a support.

2. A connector as claimed in claim 1, wherein said housing has a hollow cylindrical shape, and has an accommodating space formed therein for accommodating said spring portion and said engaging portion when said spring portion is bent,

the connector further comprising a sliding member mounted on an outer peripheral surface of said locking member in a manner slidable in an axial direction of said housing, said sliding member having a window for permitting said engaging portion to escape therein such that said engaging portion can be engaged with the recess of the mating connector when the connector is fitted to the mating connector.

3. A connector as claim d in claim 2, wherein

said spring force-increasing means is a stepped portion formed in said housing in a manner protruding into said accommodating space.

4. A connector as claimed in claim 2, wherein said spring force-increasing means is a protruding portion formed on a bottom surface of said engaging portion in a manner protruding into said accommodating space.

5. A connector as claimed in claim 2, wherein said spring force-increasing means is a ring which is wound around said housing in a manner opposed to said engaging portion in a radial direction of said housing.